

KNIGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer's Report for 1954

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The following is the Report of your District Medical Officer of Health for the year 1954.

Population. The population of the Urban District as estimated by the Registrar General at 30th June, 1954 was 1,840.

Housing. (a) Overcrowding. The position regarding overcrowded dwellings has not changed.

(b) General. The Council entered into a Contract for the erection of 14 houses at the recently acquired site at Pontfaen, Ludlow Road, and a plot of land there was sold to the Mid-Wales Police Authority for the erection of a Police House.

A Closing Order was made in respect of the house, 12, Market Street, Knighton, which was considered to be incapable of being rendered fit for habitation.

There were no private houses built during the year and it is suggested that this may be due to the lack of available sites.

Four Grants amounting to £542 were made for the improvement of dwellings under the Housing Act, 1949.

Transport. The motor services to the outlying rural areas have been curtailed and this has entailed considerable inconvenience.

Schools. Certain improvements have been carried out at the Knighton Primary School.

National Health Services. The Hospital and Nursing services are satisfactory.

Water Supply. The piped water supplies continue to be generally satisfactory both as to quality and quantity. The water has no plumbo solvent action. Byelaws were made under section 17 of the Water Act, 1945, for preventing waste etc. of water.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. The main sewer was extended to serve properties at the Garth. No progress has been made regarding the sewerage of houses in Kinsley Road in the Clun Rural District.

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The erosion of the river bank resulting from floods created a throat to a section of the outfall sewer pipe and protective measures were in hand.

Refuse Disposal. House and trade refuse was satisfactorily dealt with both as regards collection and incineration.

Markets. Further improvement works were carried out at the Livestock Market including the provision of a building for accommodating cows and calves.

Slaughterhouse. The slaughterhouse previously operated on behalf of the Ministry of Food was taken over by the Council and carried on by the local butchers from 1st June, 1954.

Recreation Grounds. A site in Bowling Green Lane was cleared preparatory to the laying down of two hard tennis courts.

Allotments. A small area of allotments land was sold; there are a number of vacant and uncultivated garden plots.

Medical Officer of Health. Dr. H.C. Harley resigned as Medical Officer of Health on 1st September, 1954, when Dr. G.A. Ballance was appointed to take over the duties of that office.

Infectious Disease. There were 40 cases of infectious disease notified viz: Measles 8; Whooping Cough 30; Pneumonia 1; Tuberculosis 1.

Births. 25 births were reported; 12 male and 13 female.

Deaths. There were 22 deaths; 6 male and 16 female.

Public Health. The following is a summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector:

	Houses	Factories and Workshops	Common Lodging Houses	Slaughter Houses etc.	Others	TOTAL
Inspections made	23	345	12	169	194	743
Defects remedied	7	5	-	-	11	23

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Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	135	21	9	2032	226
No. inspected before slaughter	135	21	9	2029	224
No. inspected after slaughter	135	21	9	2032	226
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	2	40	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	19	16	1	154	6
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	14	76	33	9	3
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	7
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	3

Note:- Animals not inspected before slaughter were those slaughtered for emergency reasons.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply. This is satisfactory.

(b) Meat and other foods. Regular inspections were made of all food shops, stalls &c. and, generally, a high standard of hygiene is maintained.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

(Signed) G.A. BALLANCE, M.B.

